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WEATHER**94**
70**Tomorrow:****85**
70Established
1924

THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 92, NO. 8

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Thursday, September 4, 2008

Thursday Notebook**CAMPUS****ONLY ONE PERCENT OF AFRICAN AMERICANS DONATE BLOOD, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE MANY WITH RARE BLOOD TYPES IN NEED OF DONATIONS. FIND OUT WAYS TO HELP.**

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EDITORIALS & PERSPECTIVES**OVERRIDES A PAIN FOR MANY STUDENTS. TROUBLE GETTING INTO CLASSES IS A RESULT OF LARGE ROSTERS AND UNWILLING PROFESSORS.**

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LIFE & STYLE**HE'S A FATHER, MUSIC MOGUL, WORKS IN REAL ESTATE AND NOW HE'S VENTURING INTO TV. MASTER P STARTS HIS OWN BLACK NETWORK TO COMPETE WITH BET AND TV ONE.**

PAGE 8

Administration Officially Extends Override, Purge Date

Course Override Forms will be accepted until the close of the business day on Monday, Sept. 8. There will be a one week notice before the official purge date, according to an administrative letter sent Wednesday evening.

Reasons for the numerous delays in student validation attributed to students

submitting financial aid applications, securing outside loans and securing private scholarships late.

There is also a new federal provision that delays the financial aid package process, according to the letter.

In the letter, sent to the Howard University Student Association President

Nicholas Owen, Interim Provost Alvin Thornton offered to hold regular meetings between Enrollment Management and student leaders in order to improve the communication between students and administration.

These actions come one day after Owen sent a letter to Howard University

President Sidney A. Ribeau requesting that the Course Override period be extended to Sept. 8.

He also requested that the purge date be publicized and that communication between Student Accounts and the Office of Financial Aid be improved.

"We will continue to aggressively

assist students, making available to them all private, public and institutional aid for which they are eligible," Thornton wrote in the letter.

-Compiled by Vanessa Rozier,
Editor-in-Chief

Decrease in Budget Causes Increase in Complaints

BY CHRISTINA L. BURTON
Business & Technology Editor

A Howard University department chairwoman received an earful of complaints from 30 frustrated students whose classes were just cancelled for the third time since the school year began.

Due to alleged "administrative challenges" from the university's higher administration, a few professors like Pilates instructor Donna Lynn could not teach her 11:10 a.m. Monday and Wednesday Pilates class of about 100 students, many of whom got overrides into the class because other physical education classes were closed.

In a spur of the moment meeting with Chairwoman Dr. Doris Corbett, students displayed that they have had enough with Howard's lack of communication with students and demanded from Corbett a solution to what they could do immediately.

Four classes, according to Corbett, are cancelled including Pilates, two Exercise & Wellness classes and Human Anatomy lecture. Corbett said something will be done to amend students', but refused to comment further on the matter.

A student said that professor Deaneen N. Long-White said the problem was that the three professors — Lynn, Lawrence Enweze and an unknown instructor — teaching the four courses are not getting paid. However, Associate Provost Dr. Joseph Reidy said that is wrong.

"The rumor is not true about teachers not getting paid," Reidy said in an interview Wednesday afternoon. "That's just not the case."

Reidy, who said he intends to brief Senior Vice Provost Dr. Alvin Thornton when he returns to campus tomorrow morning, said faculty employees have to be "fully approved" by the provost's office before they can be paid. This includes professors that Howard has to employ abruptly to teach a class opened because another class is too full.

"[This situation] happened to be



Christina L. Burton - Business & Technology Editor
Students wait outside of their Pilates class that was cancelled for the second time.

a little out of the ordinary," Reidy said, agreeing with what HHPL professors said about this being the first time this has ever happened.

The problem will not linger on past Friday, Reidy assured. He also said the provost's office realizes that similar problems with class cancellations have occurred in the past and are "often left in a state of suspense almost" until the school year starts. He said there is not a problem with space, but that there is a need for instructors and that the university is in a "tight" financial position.

"We don't have a major space issue," he said. "I mean, if you just walk down the Douglass halls on any afternoon, you notice a lot of empty classrooms."

The University has suffered from lowered federal appropriations for the past several years. According to the Department of Education, Howard received \$204 million in federal funding for the 2008-2009 school years making up 35.4 percent of the university's total

> See **CLASSES**, Page 5



Christina L. Burton - Business & Technology Editor
Proactive members of the cancelled P.E. classes meet with HHPL Chair, Doris Corbett, Ph.D. to find a solution to their problems.

Student Voice Concerns About Cancelled Classes, HHPL Chairs Try to Find Solution

BY SHIVONNE FOSTER
Campus Editor

Pilates mats were left unrolled for another classes period, and many disgruntled students voiced complaints as four Human Health Performance and Leisure (HHPL) classes were cancelled Wednesday with no information about when or if they would meet again.

Pilates, Human Anatomy and two Exercise and Wellness courses have not held a class session since the school year began.

Professor Donna Lynn, who instructs Pilates at 11:10 a.m., told 50 plus students who sat dressed in athletic wear she is hoping the issue is settled by

Friday after a scheduled administrative meeting.

Lynn came to class prepared to teach, but was told by Human Health Performance Leisure Chair, Doris Corbett, Ph.D. not to hold classes for the second consecutive scheduled meeting due to "administrative challenges."

"I can't really say what's going on behind the scenes," Lynn said. "But to have a turn out like this doesn't make sense for us not to have a class."

According to Bison Web 92 students are enrolled in the 40 student capacity class.

Students were advised to find another P.E. class to enroll into to fulfill their individual HHPL requirements.

However, that advice proves difficult for many students.

Tameka Glenn, a senior chemistry and psychology major, is enrolled in Human Anatomy, a course required for entering the two dental schools she is applying for.

After students were informed that classes had been cancelled again, 30 students met with Corbett to discuss a range of personal issues with the class cancellations. At the meeting students' contact information was taken; however, not all students enrolled in the classes were present.

Corbett declined comment to

> See **PILATES**, Page 5

Poor Economy Helps Community Colleges

BY NATELEG WHALEY
Contributing Writer

Due to the slowing economy, people are cutting corners to save a buck. Some households cannot afford increasing tuition costs at 4-year universities. As a result, parents of college-aged students are enrolling their children into the less expensive community colleges, which is causing the enrollment of many community colleges to boom.

However, they are more than just a cheaper price. "Community colleges are quick to adapt and provide education and training for jobs in newer fields such as alternative energy," says Norma Kent, Vice President of the American Association of Community Colleges, located in Washington, D.C. This includes training students in the newer industry of wind generated energy to become wind turbine technicians.

In 2006-2007, 1,045 community colleges in the United States enrolled 6.2 million students, according to the National Center of Education Statistics. Between 2000-2006, student enrollment in community colleges has increased by 10

percent according to the Department of Education.

In some cases, students attend community colleges because they are intimidated by big universities and need more one on one attention from administrators and professors. "Community college allows you to get your head straight before you enter an environment with many distractions," says senior psychology major Ife-Chudeni Oputa, a transfer student from Fresno Community College in Fresno, Calif.

For others, it is the convenience of being close to home. "My mother had



Photo Courtesy of <http://www.ext-dl.appstate.edu/surry.html>
With increase in four-year college tuition prices many resort to community college

congestive heart failure and I wanted to

> See **COLLEGE**, Page 5

Republican Convention Puts All Eyes on McCain-Palin Ticket for Election

BY ANGELA P. SMITH
Staff Writer

Following five days of intense media scrutiny, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin introduced herself to the nation last night as she accepted the GOP's vice presidential nomination at the Republican National Convention in Minneapolis-St. Paul-Minn.

In perhaps the most important speech of her life, Palin described herself as an average hockey mom who "didn't need focus groups and voter profiles" because she "knew the voters and their families, too."

Palin then discussed her experience as a public servant, highlighting her record as Alaska's governor and a former small-time mayor.

"Since our opponents in this presidential election seem to look down on that experience, let me explain to them what the job involves. I guess a small-town mayor is sort of like a 'community organizer,' except that you have actual responsibilities," Palin said, contrasting her political background with that of Democratic presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama.

Controversy over Palin, who was virtually unknown until Sen. John McCain chose her as ticket mate Friday, distracted Republicans this week as they had set on reaching out to voters after the Democratic National Convention last

> See **RNC**, Page 5

Blood Drive to Help Provide Scarce, Unique Types

BY EBONI FARMER
Deputy Campus Editor

According to the American Red Cross, African Americans represent 14 percent of the population. Only one percent of the population is part of the blood donor pool.

This is something third-year pharmacy student John Penn is trying to change.

Last school year, Penn decided that he wanted his community project as student assistant in the Howard Plaza Towers to be a blood drive.

"I'm trying to make Howard a school known for donating blood," Penn said.

Penn encourages all Howard students to donate blood today from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

This year, Howard Plaza Towers property manager Larry Freeflow is allowing students who participate in the blood drive to receive two RSVP points.

At the blood drive he organized during the spring semester, Penn said the Red Cross collected 30 units of blood. During the blood drive today, he is hoping to get at least 50 units.

Senior biology Steve Daniels noticed the signs promoting the blood drive around the West Towers and was shocked when he read the facts about African-American blood types.

"I had no idea that African Americans have a different blood types. That means they are at greater risk because our donor pool is so low," Daniels said. "Who are we going to get blood from if we don't give it ourselves?"

He said he hasn't decided if he will give blood today because of his class schedule but that the need for African-American blood makes him want to.

According to the Red Cross, African Americans have blood types that are as unique as the people themselves. These blood types are Duffy-Negative and U-Negative.

The most common types of blood that African Americans have are Type O and Type B. Type B is one of the most uncommon blood types that the Red Cross has in supply.

September marks National Sickle Cell Anemia Awareness

month, and Penn believes it is an important time to spread awareness.

According to Mayo Clinic, one of 12 African Americans carry the trait for sickle cell anemia.

Normal blood cells stay alive for 120 days. Sickle Cell blood cells stay alive for 18 days, Penn said. When the cells die, the person becomes anemic and needs six to eight units of blood.

Stacy Simms, a senior public relations major, hopes that she will be able to make it to the blood drive.

"It's imperative that we help each other live and students at Howard do care about the black community," Simms said. "I hope that the turnout is good."



At previous blood drives, students volunteered to donate for the cause.

African -American Blood Facts

- Some African-American patients have rare blood types like U-Negative or Duffy-Negative. These patients depend on other African Americans to supply this rare blood.

- Increasing minority donations is vital because blood types O and B, the blood types of about 70 percent of African Americans, are also the first to run out during a blood shortage.

- African-American donors provide the best chance of survival for African-American patients with rare blood types.

- Genetically similar blood is best for those who need repeat or large volumes of blood transfusions for various conditions like sickle cell anemia, heart disease and kidney disease as well as emergency treatments and surgeries.

- Blood that closely matches a patient's is less likely to be rejected by the patient and provides fewer potential risks for complications.

- Representing 14 percent of the population, only 1 percent of that population are blood donors.

- Courtesy of American Red Cross
Compiled by Eboni Farmer

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In a unique blend of storytelling and music, OBIE Award-winner **Daniel Beaty**, who dazzled Arena audiences last year with **Emergency**, brings us six African American men whose lives collide one evening in an unforgettable look at identity, relationships, and, above all, our human connections.



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Morehouse to Build 'World House' With King Collection

BY W. HASSAN MARSH
Black College Wire

Morehouse College is teaming up with Atlanta's leaders to develop the \$125 million center that will exhibit the Morehouse King Collection and highlight the role of historically black colleges and universities in social justice struggles.

The city has been known for its desire to be a player on the world's stage since a community coalition worked on bringing the Olympics to Atlanta in 1996. Morehouse wishes the same.

"The vision has been that the Center for Civil and Human Rights will be the primary exhibition facility for the papers," said Doug Shipman, Executive Director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights Partnership, to Black College Wire.

However, Morehouse will remain the owner of the papers and the "scholarly drive" behind the King Collection which is currently being held in the Robert Woodruff Library that Morehouse shares with the other Atlanta University Center Schools.

"We see ourselves as the public outlet when someone wants to bring their family," Shipman said. "When a scholar wants to study the King papers, Morehouse is the institution that will be their partner in their academic pursuit."

So, the 141-year-old HBCU has been doing everything it could for the last two years to leverage the Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection that the city gave as a gift to the school.

"It can only enhance Morehouse's reputation, nationally and internationally, and carries the Morehouse tradition of our alumni, prominent, well-known alumni, [being] closely connected with the college," former president Walter E. Massey said in an interview with Black College Wire shortly after the news was announced two years ago.

"It's another recognition that we are among the finest colleges in the world, the fact that this kind of collection would be entrusted into our oversight," Massey said in the June 2006 interview.

However, at the time, neither the school nor the city clearly defined how they intended to capitalize on the acquisition of the 10,000-piece collection that was left in Coretta Scott King's basement.

There had been suggestion that the papers would be exhibited at a museum that Mayor Shirley Franklin had been planning.

The only thing that was clear was that a deal that mobilized \$32 million in 11 days to save the papers from auction would be used in some significant way.

But the loan had to be extended due to slow fundraising. Early opposition to the plan took many forms.

"Will the legacy of freedom be secure with the pending transfer to Morehouse College?" asked Pulitzer Prize winning King biographer Taylor Branch in a scathing op-ed in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution in July 2006.

He cited murky terms of sale and the lack of facilities on Morehouse's campus.

Since then, the mayor, who led the charge to buy the papers, business and community leaders have made significant progress in designating how and where the papers will be used.

It will anchor the Center for Civil and Human Rights that is slated to break ground in 2009.

Woodruff Library has received a grant to help fund the processing of the paper and has engaged in a joint initiative with Boston University where over 80,000 items that belonged to King remain and Stanford's King Institute to make a master catalogue of all archival materials. Library officials said that the collection would be available for scholarly use in late fall.

The Center will be a 100,000 square foot



Courtesy of www.morehouse.edu

complex that will be dedicated to the history of civil rights struggles and the future of social justice globally. It will include exhibition, performance, and meeting space as well as a media facility.

"The Center for Civil and Human Rights is a living institution that will both celebrate and educate around civil rights history, especially Atlanta's history," said Shipman, adding that history is "a springboard to talk about contemporary issues of civil and human rights."

From the outset, organizers envisioned the center as a powerful economic engine for the city, further propelling it to international stature.

An economic impact study prepared by the consulting firm Deloitte and released by the CCHR Partnership showed that the project would generate \$1.2 billion in economic activity for the Atlanta metro area and create 1,550 new jobs.

The international aspirations were highlighted during U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's visit to the Atlanta University Center to view the papers.

"Today, my admiration grew even further, as I saw the papers lodged in this library," Ban told an audience of the city's movers and shakers, faculty and students at Woodruff.

"Seeing the original of 'Letter from a Birmingham Jail,' with paragraphs that Dr. King wrote on scraps of paper, I could only imagine what intellectual courage and conviction went into the effort," he said, according to the UN news service.

This is all, in fact, an effort by diverse stakeholders to brand Atlanta as a leader in civil and human rights.

The Center has had conversations with the UN to host conferences and events on human rights, according to Shipman.

Like Atlanta, Morehouse has worked to attain an international profile over the past several years charging the Andrew Young Center for International Affairs with the task of globalizing the campus and its curriculum in 1998 and the Leadership Center with educating globally-conscious leaders.

The King Collection energizes these efforts. "Morehouse's future depends on cultivated, visionary leadership that is rooted in deep memory," said Walter Fluker, executive director of the Leadership Center and interim director of the King Collection. "The King papers help provide that."



The Biz

Let your money DRIP: Investing the Cheap Way

BY CHARLES TAYLOR
Contributing Columnist

Investing isn't as hard, or as expensive as most people think. Let's say you wanted to invest in your favorite thing ever: YOUR MOM, OF COURSE. But, the problem is, you're a college student and money is tight... How would you do it? If you really want to be highly leveraged in YOUR MOM Inc., and have lots of money? You might hire a personal broker to execute your strategy and watch it for you. But, if you're like most college students, that's really not an option. So, how can you enjoy the benefits of compound interest AND get into the market cheaply and easily? By using a little-known tool called a DRIP.

DRIP, or a Dividend/Direct Reinvestment Plan, is one of the greatest secrets available to small investors (aka most students). Almost every big company has a DRIP fund and they allow you to invest at your own pace. Instead of having to purchase numerous shares of Coca-Cola at one time, plus paying commission fees, with a DRIP you can simply send \$15 or \$20 and the company will purchase fractions of stocks in your name.

DRIPs are meant to be held over the long term (the very long term), so dividends earned by shareholders invested in a company's DRIP are automatically re-invested by that company. This allows shareholders (YOU) to enjoy compounded returns on your money. Another plus is that there are no commission fees when buying shares of a company through a DRIP fund.

Some of the cheapest brokers are Scottrade, E-Trade and Ameritrade. However, their fees per trade run at \$7, \$6.99-9.99 and 9.99 respectively. This means that every time you purchase a share of a company, you would have to pay this fee. DRIPs allow you to avoid these costs.

However, as we all know, nothing is perfect and DRIPs are no exception. There are two main drawbacks. There are many different DRIP plans, so these drawbacks may not apply to all of them.

First, you aren't able to sell your shares quickly in a DRIP account. If a company's stock starts to go down, you won't be able to quickly get rid of your shares. DRIPs usually sell on a particular date, so often you must wait until a particular date to sell.

Second, there are only a limited number of companies that offer DRIP plans. While there are more than 1,600 companies that have DRIP plans, there are still more than 7,000 companies on the New York Stock Exchange, Amex and NASDAQ that you can't invest through.

So, for students who don't have the \$500 or \$1,000 necessary to open an account with an online broker but still want to start investing, DRIPs can be the perfect solution. In order to get started, just contact the company you would like to invest in and request a DRIP prospectus. Another way to get started is to use the services of an investor's network called First Share, which can be located at www.firstshare.com.

Charles Taylor is the owner of OnGenius Company, which provides free lecture notes, helps students buy and sell used textbooks. He can be reached at ctaylor@origen.com or via the company's Web

Student Loans Still a Problem for Minorities

BY GRACE SALVANT
Contributing Writer

Raise your hand if you have \$22,000 just lying around in your savings account ready to pay for the 2008-09 school year.

I didn't think so.

The popular term "broke college student" is familiar to many as they struggle to pay for day to day necessities, let alone tuition, room and board and other costs of matriculation.

So how does the not-so balling Bison pay this hefty fee? Do they have wealthy parents? Some do. Are they awarded scholarships? Some are.

But many students at Howard University as well as students across the country rely on federal and private funding from student loans.

With inflation and the cost of living on the rise — and credit scores and

income declining — students are left with very few options when it comes to getting assistance.

Junior English major Stephanie Rivas said, "My freshman year, I decided to take out a loan with Chase bank. I researched and found that they had the lowest interest rates available at that time."

But Rivas was soon deterred after realizing that interest rates were skyrocketing and decided to take an alternate route in paying for her second year.

"I felt like I was going to be paying back loans for the rest of my life," she said. "I talked with people in financial aid, and they set up a payment plan."

Rivas then had to get a full-time job and pay her tuition out of her own pockets while being a full-time student.

Realizing that her grades were suffering as a result, she chose to give loans another try for this year. There was only

one problem.

"They denied my loan application," she said. "They said that because of the failing economy, they had to be more selective about whom they gave loans to, and I have a balance from last semester."

There are various factors that can influence a loan application and whether or not it gets approved or denied.

These factors include the credit history of both the applicant and cosigner, the ability to repay and most importantly, the borrower's income.

Many African-American and Latino students come from low-income families. This obviously affects how they pay for school as well as their ability to be approved for loans.

In 2007, Congress passed a student support law that would "decrease the interest on need-based student loans from 6.8 percent to 6.0 percent, allowing

students more accessible and affordable loans. It went into effect July 1, 2008.

Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.), who serves as Chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, and Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), the Chairman of the House and Senate Education Committees both co-signed the law.

According to a press release, Miller said the day the law was passed was "a pivotal day for many low and middle income students who depend on need-based loans to help pay for college."

Melissa Wagoner, spokeswoman for Kennedy, said that "Senator Kennedy believes strongly that we cannot allow today's slumping economy to rob young Americans of their chance to achieve the American dream."

But will it be enough to protect Rivas' American dream? She is optimistic.

"I've chosen to seek other options" she says.



Oscar Merriola IV - Photo Editor

Euphoria, a lounge located on U and 9th Streets, opened this summer. The student-managed venue offers Wi-Fi access as well as food and is open to students and adults of all ages.

Student-run Lounge Makes 'Euphoria' Good, Cheaper for Students

BY OLAJUMOKE OBIYANJU
Contributing Writer

Sitting between two businesses on the busy streets of U and 9th Streets lies a hidden treasure of Howard, or even perhaps D.C.: Euphoria.

Managed by three Howard students, Euphoria opened its doors with a grand opening on July 11, 2008. With the concept of having a "euphoric nature," the restaurant-lounge is decorated with eclectic decor, candle-lit rooms and relaxing furniture.

The minds behind the business include senior advertising major Adedamola Ademiluyi, senior marketing major Jason Mutua and senior marketing major Jerod Harris.

"We were sitting in the Punchout thinking about how there was nowhere

to chill that's close to campus," said Harris on the start-up of the business.

Mutua continued, "The idea of an actual chill spot where students can come get on the Internet, get good food and enjoy the ambiance was established from the get go. We feel like it's an extreme lack of that at Howard."

The two-story, Wi-Fi wired lounge with couches, paintings, a bar and a dance floor with surrounding mirrors is synonymous to its name. With food service and sultry music, Euphoria doubles as a party location and a great restaurant.

"It's really just clubs, there aren't any chill spots [anymore]," said Ademiluyi. "All the spots that are so-called lounges might as well be clubs. You don't always have to be jumping around listen-

ing to Soulja Boy [either]... you can just sit down and chill."

Focusing on just simply having a place for students and professionals to relax, Euphoria sways away from charging at the door.

"When ya'll go to the club, they charge \$20 at the door, they try to capitalize off of you. We're still Howard students, we're just like ya'll," Harris said.

In terms of the company's growth, Mutua said, "We're just working on becoming the best chill spot in D.C."

These entrepreneurial seniors said that they understand that school comes first, and explained how time-management allows them to juggle their business and their other individual activities including African Students Association, Campus Pals, Chicago Peoples Union,

Target Hope and Fresh Academy.

"A lot of the time I would spend hanging out, I just put all that energy and time into this," Harris said.

"I try to get my work done early in the day and make sure I plan my schedule accordingly so I won't have to sacrifice my grades or my business."

A hybrid of a marketing outlet, hangout location, restaurant, study lounge and even a club venue, Euphoria is a product of three Howard men who made the change they wanted to see.

"This is not a 21 and older spot; [Euphoria] is open for everyone," Ademiluyi said. "In every aspect of our business, we want you to have a heavenly state of mind...this should feel like your home."

DEBARMENT

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) debarred Maria Anne Kirkman Campbell, a physician who runs a weight-loss clinic, from approving drug applications.

Campbell was convicted of a felony under Federal law due to her inappropriate conduct in regulating a

drug product under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. The FDA is denying Campbell a hearing, waiving any opportunities for her to address concerns for this action.

According to the American Society of Health System Pharmacists, Campbell was charged on August 29,

2003 with faking clinical trial data. She pleaded to a count of fraud and served prison time.

"Dr. Campbell has failed to file with the agency information and analyses sufficient to create a basis for a hearing concerning this action," said the FDA in a Federal Register

notice.

Therefore, we are, in the alternative, issuing an order denying any such assumed request for a hearing because we find that there is no genuine and substantial issue of fact to grant a hearing on the debarment, if a hearing were requested."

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Classes Cancelled for Lack Of Faculty, Budget Limits

Continued from front, **TEACHERS**

funds.

Faculty salaries are a big part of the school's budget. This year, it will cost the university upwards of \$215.5 million to pay instructors, 37 percent of the school's funds.

According to the university budget, a 0.4 percent – or \$229,000 – salary increase was implemented this year.

"We are at a point in time where we have to look at the expenditures across the board," Reidy said of Howard's lowered funding. He did mention that Howard is "by no means" nearing bankruptcy.

Instruction remains the biggest concern to Howard's budget, he said. Even the cost of undergraduate tuition grew to \$14,205 for new students this year, up from \$13,215 last year to make up for the school's lack of funding.

In the 2009 operating budget, it is chiefly noted that the university is "planning for breakeven operations."

"We realize that what had been affordable in the past is no longer affordable," said Reidy, who taught U.S. History courses at Howard since before 1998.

"I understand that [students] are upset," he said. "I would be upset if I were in their shoes."

Reidy said he wants to make the problem go away before Friday. He said, "I am hopeful that we may be able to create some kind of alternative; something with the least adverse impact on students, especially seniors graduating in December."

He added, "We don't want to create the impression that we don't care about graduating seniors."



Students gather in the hallway outside of Chairwoman Doris Corbett, Ph.D.'s office waiting for a meeting to discuss class cancellations.

Struggles to Register for Requirements Provides Challenges for Seniors

Continued from front, **CLASSES**

to *The Hilltop*.

"One class is setting us back from graduation," Glenn said. "Where is the President at this point? Where the hell is he?"

Currently, the Human Anatomy course is only offered in the spring, leaving students like Glenn on the track to dental school with few options.

Glenn said if the course is added

for the spring semester it will change her already 21 credit hours into 24 credits.

If cancelled, the three-credit hour Human Anatomy course may cause international student Trista Hewitt to face deportation.

Hewitt, a junior biology major on track for dental school next year, said that if the course is cancelled she will face immigration violation due to lack of mandatory credit hour requirements.

However, Valerie Turner, Ph.D.,

special assistant to the President, said that international students need to contact their Deans immediately to prevent deportation.

Turner said she does not recall seeing a student get deported for lack of credit hours during her tenure.

December graduate Jessica Dye voiced concerns about the Pilates class she is enrolled in setting her back from the upcoming graduation.

"If they cancel class all together I want any money back and the credit

requirements removed," said Dye, a senior art history and Spanish major. "I don't appreciate this as a customer of this university."

Many students said they talked to several administrators who did not supply any definite answers.

"We've been given the run around," said senior public relations major Morgan Mahone to Corbett, who is enrolled in Pilates. "There is clearly a breakdown in organizational structure."

Mahone said she and a group of concerned students went to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, James Donaldson, Ph.D., but were turned around and told to go see the Provost.

Other students who confronted Corbett last week were told to petition Donaldson about the class situation.

Dye said, "As a customer this is bad service, and we still don't have any answers."

Community College Education Just As Good

Continued from front, **COLLEGE**

be prepared mentally before I went away...I'm also very close to my family," said junior sociology major Ashley Bridgewater who received her associate's degree in Criminal Justice from McClenan Community College in Waco, Texas this year.

"Our country has a wonderful array of education options and community colleges are one of the most important," Kent said. Many careers in today's job market can be obtained by getting an associate's degree offered at community colleges. "A career as a registered nurse, radiology technician, police officer, firefighter or even paralegal are all possible through preparation at community colleges," she said.

With all these added bonuses, community college enrollment has increased significantly. Yet, many community colleges will have trouble with these growing numbers. Kent explained that

community colleges are funded by state governments and that there is a budget set aside for the amount of money spent on these schools. "It is a real challenge. No. Community colleges generally are not able to support these increased enrollments."

However, Howard University can't always financially support their 10,000-plus enrolled students with scholarships. Ife-Chudeni Oputa and Ashley Bridgewater both transferred from their significantly less expensive schools to Howard University without receiving any financial aid. Howard does however offer the Transfer Students Scholarship which, to be eligible, "prospective transfer applicants must have at least 30 transferable credit hours and at least a 3.25 grade point average from their transferring institution," according to Howard's Web site.

"Dealing with administration is quite the experience. Not being able to get in contact with people, not getting responses," said Ife-Chudeni in reference

to Howard's Administration Building. Ashley is also facing similar challenges. "At community colleges, the administration...it was better...I was not just a number. This whole enrollment experience here is so different."

However, both stay positive by keeping in mind the reasons they came to Howard. "Growing up in a predominately white area, I wanted the Black experience. I always felt at home at Howard... I admire Toni Morrison and other great graduates of Howard and I wanted to live out the legacy that is 'the Mecca,'" says Ife-Chudeni.

"I wanted to go to HU since I was in the 7th grade," Ashley said.

They both had a dream to go to Howard and created their own paths here, even if it didn't mean starting out here as freshmen.

Ashley says, "Don't knock community colleges until you try it! They offered university programs and my college prepared me greatly for my university, Howard."

Palin Vies to Win America

Continued from front, **RNC**

week.

Once the McCain campaign announced that Palin's 17-year-old unmarried daughter, Bristol, was five months pregnant, the news widely circulated the convention as well as the nation.

Details of an Alaska investigation into whether Palin had dismissed a state employee because he wouldn't fire her estranged brother-in-law and reports that she hired a lobbyist to secure more than \$20 million in federal earmarks for her hometown of Wasilla, Alaska also surfaced.

Despite the media frenzy, Republicans have stood behind Palin. Her mission for last night was to win support from America.

"I'm not a member of the permanent political establishment," Palin said to a roaring crowd of followers. "And I've learned quickly these past few days that if you're not a member in good standing of the Washington elite, then some in the media consider a candidate unqualified for that reason alone. But here's a little news flash for all those reporters and commentators: I'm not going to Washington to seek their good opinion – I'm going to Washington to serve the people of this country."

She also addressed energy policies that the McCain-Palin administration will implement, promising

to "lay more pipelines, build more nuclear plants and create jobs with clean coal...And move forward on solar, wind, geothermal and other alternative sources."

McCain has repeatedly cited Palin's experience on energy resources as proof that she is ready to serve as vice president. In an interview with ABC's "World News," McCain said Palin – the former chair of the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission – had been in charge of "20 percent of America's energy supply."

Last night's session also featured speeches by former Republican presidential contenders Mitt Romney, Rudy Giuliani and Mike Huckabee. Giuliani, also former mayor of New York, praised Palin as he delivered the keynote address.

"Governor Palin represents a new generation. She's already one of the most successful governors in America – and the most popular," Giuliani said. "And she already has more executive experience than the entire Democratic ticket. She's led a city and a state. She's reduced taxes and government spending. And she's actually done something about moving America toward energy independence – taking on the oil companies while encouraging more energy exploration here at home."

McCain is slated to accept the Republican presidential nomination tonight.

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Popular spots, like Dukem Restaurant, occupy an area often referred to as "Little Ethiopia." This section of the U Street Corridor offers city residents and visitors alike a taste of Ethiopian cuisine, language and culture.

Ethiopian Community Provides Added Flavor to City Culture

BY VALITA WALSTON
Staff Writer

Among the many groups that make up Washington's diverse community is it's Ethiopian population. For over 20 years this community has left a unique and culturally enriching impression on the city.

"Ethiopians are adventurous by nature. You will always find an Ethiopian anywhere in the world where there is opportunity," said Wondimu Assemnew, head of Public Relations and Public Diplomacy at the Embassy of Ethiopia.

Deeply entrenched in the history and cultural landscape of Washington, D.C. — most noticeably the Shaw area — the Ethiopian community has prospered in small businesses and entrepreneurship.

Through store and restaurant

ownership, many Ethiopians have incorporated specific aspects of their culture into mainstream D.C.

"I think the two cultures are interchangeable and they influence each other," Assemnew said.

In 2005, members of the community petitioned to have a section of the city given the name "Little Ethiopia."

Although the petition, which was supported by Ward One Council Member Jim Graham, did not pass in council, it stirred up controversy within Shaw's African-American community.

Assemnew, a diplomat who resides on the city's Embassy row, said both African-American and Ethiopian cultures work together to represent the District's cultural identity.

However, in a city whose cultural identity is rapidly changing, the Ethiopian community has managed to keep hold of their businesses throughout the transformation of the District's physical

and demographical landscape — something Assemnew credits to Ethiopian cultural values.

"Ethiopians are successful people in general as a culture, wherever Ethiopians go they bring with them value, culture and identity," Assemnew said.

Large numbers of Ethiopians began to migrate out of Africa during the 1970s due to war violence.

Many within the Ethiopian Diaspora settled all over the world with a significant number coming to the Washington area.

Assemnew believes it was the city's African-American community that drew so many Ethiopians to the Washington area.

"I think the amount of economic

activity and a level of comfort with the cultural diversity especially the African-American demographic probably had an influence with the Ethiopians that settled here," Assemnew said.

The Washington area has been speculated to have the largest population of Ethiopian immigrants; however, according to Andrew Laurence, head of the Ethiopian-American Cultural Center, an "exact number for the Ethiopian population cannot be given," due in large part to a lack of documentation.

What can be noted, however, is the business ownership throughout the trendy shopping district of the U Street Corridor where there are restaurants such as Dukem and Dynasty that have become culinary destinations for many Washington visitors and residents.

"Wherever Ethiopians go, they bring with them value, culture and identity."

-Wondimu Assemnew

Area Republicans Speak About the GOP

BY MELISSA MONTGOMERY
Contributing Writer

For years, political allegiance for many African Americans has been with the Democratic Party. Some feel the views of the Republican Party do not mirror the concerns of the black community.

Common perceptions lead some to believe that Republicans do not care about popular issues such as failing school systems, universal health care and the creation of jobs.

However, there is a growing number of organizations, many here in the District, that service the interests of black Republicans.

One such group are the Hip-Hop Republicans. This group was designed to make the Republican Party appeal to voters on a larger scale.

"Hip-Hop Republicans grew up with the influence of [the] hip-hop culture and, unlike their peers over age 50, [we] are able to see

how Republican values and policies should be applied to urban issues," said Richard Ivory, founder of Hip-Hop Republicans.

Darneshia Robinson, a member of the National Association of Black Republicans, volunteers at the John McCain campaign headquarters in Virginia.

Robinson believes that Republicans, like Democrats, have the interests of African Americans in mind.

"We really want all black people to be educated, self-sufficient and empowered so that they can make better decisions for themselves and their families," Robinson said.

To Republican Jabriel Ballentine, a graduate of the University of Maryland, Democrats and Republicans have many similarities.

"When I [first] discovered [I was a Republican] I started delving into history," Ballentine said. "I realized that at its foundations, the Republican Party was formed to defeat slavery."

During the 1800s, the Republican Party fought to end slavery and after the Civil War, it was the

Republicans who fought to give blacks the right to vote. Abraham Lincoln was a part of the Republican Party and before Lincoln was voted into office, the Republican Party was known as the "anti-slavery party."

Some may find it hard to believe that influential black figures such as Martin Luther King Jr., Ida B. Wells, and T.D. Jakes are Republicans.

Even though the times have changed and the stances of the Republican and Democrats have changed, many African Americans find themselves faithful to the Republican Party.

Don Scoggins is the President of Republicans for Black Empowerment, a national grassroots organization, located in Washington, D.C.

He is committed to expanding the Republican Party within the black community.

"We campaign locally, we try and support our local candidates," Scoggins

said.

Scoggins feels that this year's presidential election will be historical, whether Barack Obama wins or not.

"Even if he doesn't become president, it's still historical because no other black person has reached this point as being the party nominee," said Scoggins.

He also feels that many blacks will not vote for Barack Obama because he is black.

"If there was some balance, both parties would be creating progressive [or] radical policies to address our particular interests," Ballentine said.

Claudio Simpkins, a Harvard Law student and member of Hip-Hop Republicans, said, "We want to change the [Republican] Party so that it looks like us."

Maryland Governor, Michael Steele, will speak at the GOP Convention.

Martin Luther King, Jr. and T.D. Jakes are notable African-American Republicans

The GOP made history when Sarah Palin became the first female V.P. candidate

DISTRICT LINKS FOR YOUNG REPUBLICANS

Republicans for Black Empowerment
See Web Site for Upcoming Events
www.theblackgop.com

Republican National Committee
Alexandria Republicans' Convention
Watching Party
Sept. 4
Alexandria
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
www.johnmccain.com

Republican Youth Majority
Monday Happy Hour
5:30 p.m. at Bullfeathers
Capitol South
1st St. & D St., SE
www.rym.org

Metro Briefs

Middle School Students to Receive \$2.7 Million

In an effort to encourage higher academic performance among middle school students, D.C. Schools Chancellor Michelle Rhee and Mayor Adrian Fenty announced a new effort that will award \$2.7 million to students this school year.

The program, entitled the "Capitol Gains" pilot program, is co-sponsored by Harvard University and the District of Columbia.

The program will select 3,000 area students from grades six to eight to participate in the initiative.

Students will have an opportunity to earn up to \$100 every two weeks based on merit, attendance, behavior and academic performance.

Created by the Ivy League school, the program has also been adapted in the New York and Chicago school systems.

The program will act as an encouragement incentive.

Norton, Fenty Rally in Denver for Voting Rights

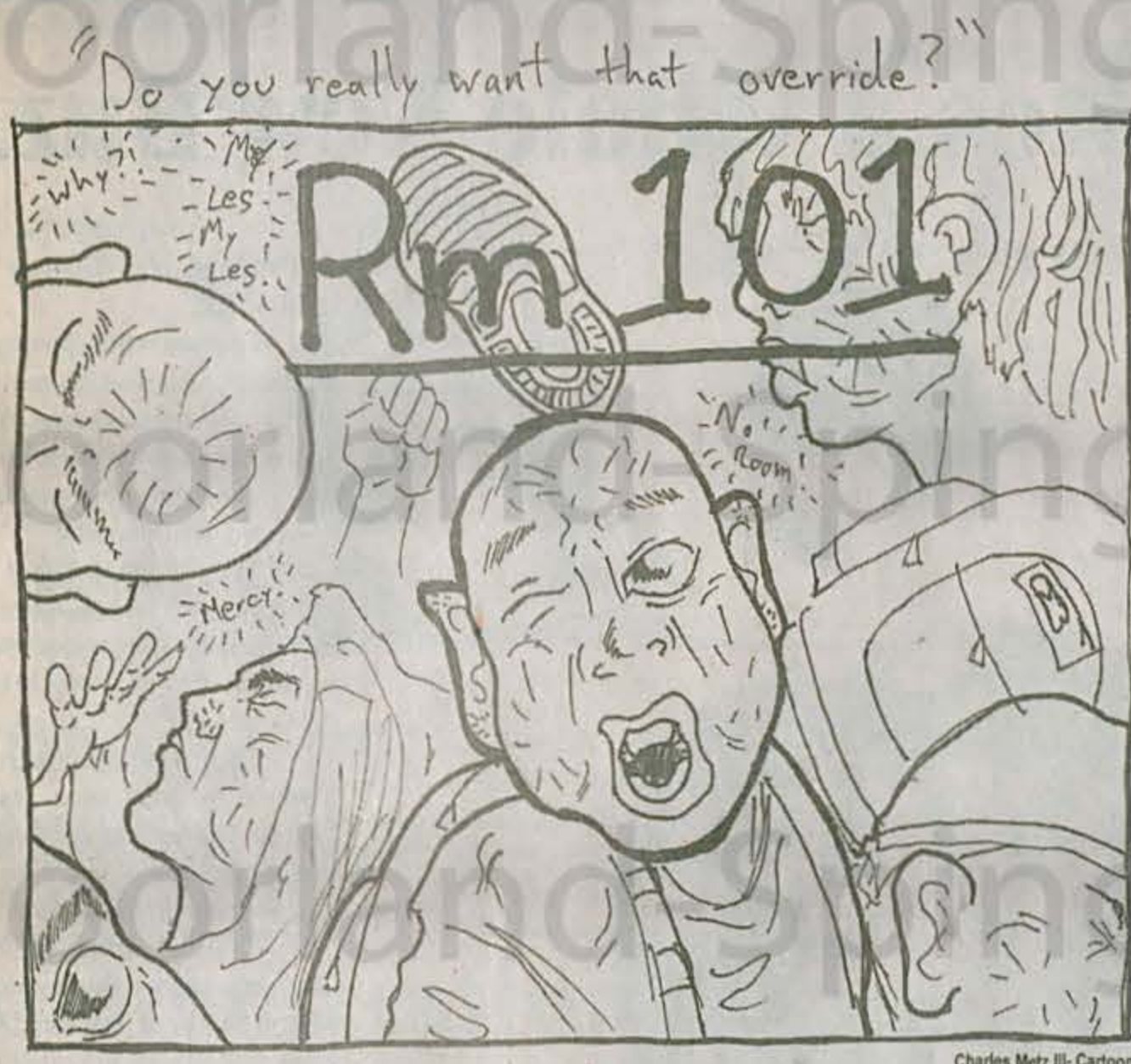
In a speech delivered last Tuesday at the Democratic National Convention (DNC), Eleanor Holmes Norton, the District's Congressional Representative, said that even though D.C. is not yet the 51st state, its citizens do not deserve to be denied the right to vote in Washington.

Norton, along with City Council Chair Vincent Gray, Mayor Adrian Fenty and members of D.C. Vote, an organization that works "to end taxation without representation," rallied in Denver at the 45th convention to bring awareness to the District's current state, in which it has no representation in the Senate or the House of Representatives.

The D.C. Voting Rights Act, which would have granted Norton full voting rights in Congress, failed to pass in the Senate last year.

D.C. Vote will also be hosting a small rally in front of the U.S. Mint in Denver on Wednesday to raise awareness for their agenda.

-Compiled by Valita Walston, Staff Writer



Charles Metz III-Cartoonist

Course Availability Issues Cause Students to Stress Out

The mere thought of Howard's registration and override process sends chills down the average Howard student's body. This isn't because they don't want to start classes... it's because they CAN'T.

When students arrive at Howard they receive a schedule that serves as a guide to graduating on time. However, many of the major classes and prerequisites fill up before the majority of students can register for them.

When students approach the teacher of the class they are told that overrides are only being signed for "graduating seniors" or they turn them away all together. The override process has become even more difficult this year, especially since teachers have become stricter about signing them.

Our question is: if the administration knows how many students they have accepted, why are there not enough teachers and

class sections to accommodate those numbers?

Of course validation, the 10-letter word that every Howard student abhors, also plays a role

in between classes to be sent from office to office.

Then afterwards, you have to wait in more lines to sign your name on a waiting list for a class that you are required to take.

The merry-go-round process of becoming validated and finding the classes that you need has many students second-guessing their decision to attend Howard. A common complaint is that students at other universities, which are sometimes predominantly white, don't have to go through this unnecessary back-to-school stress.

There is no reason why there should be a shortage of teachers and a surplus of students. If there appears to be a lack of teachers within the university then the school should not accept such a large number of students. Being able to attend class is what we pay for so why are so many students unable to do so?

Our View:

The administration knows how many students will be enrolled for the year, so they should accommodate class availability accordingly.

in being able to attend classes. In order to be seen by a financial aid or student account representative you have to wait in line during class time.

If you choose to go to class instead of waiting in long lines, then the "A" building will eventually purge your account. If you're lucky then you can find a window

Keeping Up With the Huxtables

Alumna Brandi Womack

How Do I Become the Popular Kid in College?

I can remember before entering college, watching television shows such as "A Different World," and imagining if my college experience would be anything like TV. I watched as all of the jocks would sit around making jokes and throwing footballs across the tables. The Greeks would all of a sudden break into step in the middle of the Pit and our favorite characters would sit and gossip about what was hot on campus.

When I arrived on Howard's campus, it was somewhat of the same scene. I began wondering where I would fit in, or better yet, what things would I be apart of? As I looked around at the other kids entering school with me, I felt like the same thought was running through everyone's mind: how do I become the popular kid?

As I quickly got adjusted to the college scene, I realized that there were more than just your typical jocks and Greeks you saw on television; there were so many different groups and organizations. When I first arrived, there were the energetic and bubbly Campus Pals that introduced me to my first experiences at Howard. When school started, I would walk across campus, and to my left would be a group of students sitting next to a

huge tree with a Caribbean flag on it. As I continued to walk across the yard to the sounds of the Marching Band, I could see students that had Black Power shirts on, passing out flyers to what seemed like some type of political meeting in Douglass Hall. From the group of students standing in a circle listening to each other spit rhymes, to the fine arts students expressing themselves through major fashion statements, I began to come to a major realization, there is no popular kid in college.

As a freshman we enter school in search of away to quickly fit in. We watch all of the different groups around us, and in our heads determine which ones we think are the "coolest". Some of us pick groups that we think fit our personalities, other times we conform just to be apart of a group.

We quickly go from the small town tuba playing kid, to the fashion consumed college student. We begin to make choices that we would never make, and become people we never were. We are in search of becoming the popular kid, somehow re-inventing ourselves to reach that goal.

What one must quickly realize is that college is the best time to just be you. It is a place where you discover who you truly are, and are able to express that freely in many ways. There are many different



types of people, and that is what makes the experience even more remarkable. You shouldn't conform to your surroundings to try to reach the goal of being the popular kid. You will find that throughout your experience, every group has a unique place on campus.

Of course you will grow throughout your college experience, and you will be slightly different once you leave. But you must never lose sight of that freshman you once were. You should never look back and wonder, in your pursuit to become the popular kid, did you become what others wanted you to be, or did you grow into the person you should be?

Keep Up!

-The Socialite

Daily Sudoku

Directions:

Each row, each column and each 3x3 box must contain each and every digit 1-9 exactly once.

2								7
8		6			9	1	4	
	1	3	2					
3	8		6	9				
			8		1			
				4	3		8	1
					6	8	7	
	6	8	9			2		5
5								9

Do you want to write for The Hilltop?

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Sunday @ 6 P.M. in the West Towers

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2251 Sherman Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 806-4724 (Editorial)

(202) 806-4749 (Business)

hilltopmanager@gmail.com

hilltopbusiness@gmail.com

Now in its 84th year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial & Perspectives page are the views of the The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent Howard University or its administration.

The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

Submit your perspective to
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The Dirt



BY LENZY BETTERS
Contributing Columnist

Teddy Penherassdown had to have a little chat with **Kirk Franklin** after he remade Franklin's '92 classic "Silver and Gold." Problem was T-Pain's version was about mixing silver and gold Patrón together creating what Franklin called an "Alcoholic Anthem". Here's a some of the lyrics: "You'll be hanging, swanging, drinking before this party/ Somebody's gonna have to carry me home/ I done drank the silver and gold." I don't see the problem.

Diddy's been making headlines recently because of his ridiculous video blog rants. In the first video Diddy complains that he's being forced to fly commercial because it's costing him \$200,000 every time he flies his private jet round trip from New York to L.A. My favorite part of the rant: "Shout out to all my Saudi Arabian brothers and sisters and all my brothers and sisters from all the countries that have oil, if you could all please send me some oil for my jet." All I can say is I'm glad I don't have that problem. My jet is a hybrid...

Diddy also made headlines after his very educated opinion about Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin, "You are bugging the [expletive] out. I don't even understand what planet you're on right now. This is the job to be the leader of the free world. Okay? No disrespect, I love you, I want you to live to be 110. But things happen. What happens, God forbid, you got a running mate, you become president? Alaska? Alaska?! ALASKA?! ALA—Come on, man. I don't even know if there's any black people in Alaska." No comment.

In response to the death of **Donda West**, **Kanye West's** mother, California now requires patients of elective surgery to have a thorough physical examination. California **Senator Mark Ridley** said "Many of us are concerned about the quality of care extended to those who receive elective surgery." Am I the only one who thought that this was a requirement already?

AOL released their list of music's most embarrassing dads and included **Flavor Flav**, **DMX**, **Eminem**, **The Game**, **Bobby Brown**, **R. Kelly** and **Michael Jackson**. The Game is having an especially bad time after pleading not guilty to three felony charges after allegedly beating up and threatening to shoot a guy during a "friendly" pickup basketball game at a learning center in a school zone in Los Angeles.

Lenzy Betters provides online commentary at Lenzism.com.

Paul Couture Creates a Whole New Buzz

BY ALEESA MANN
Life & Style Editor

When electric guitar riffs, a booming bass line, smooth R&B vocals and techno vibrations seamlessly come together on one single, it is apparent that Paul Couture has mastered the art of being a cross-genre artist.

"Pharell told me a long time ago that everyone's sound comes around and I've been doing this for a long time and it really wasn't my sound," Couture admits.

He continued, "Now that kind of mix between rock and hip-hop, and dance and soul combined is really creating a whole new buzz."

Couture got his start after helping a friend produce a demo for an audition and soon broke into the music industry as a producer. As a producer he refined his writing skills to a seemingly innate ability.

"The best songs really just come to you... it just kind of rolls off the tongue and you just don't think too hard about it and just write it down and hopefully it all makes sense at the end of the day," he said.

After successfully penning songs for artists like Hillary and Hailey Duff, Couture made the transition from producer to solo artist.

"I was really nervous about [going solo] because it's always easy to be behind the scenes and let everyone else take the risk, but obviously it all turned out for the better and I'm grateful for it," Couture said.

With the self-proclaimed work ethic of Michael Jackson and the musical influence of



Photo Courtesy of Yippee Entertainment

Emerging artist Paul Couture brings his signature blend of hip-hop, R&B and pop music to the mainstream.

artists like Prince, Couture has definitely charted himself on the road map to success. This year he will be opening shows for rap-rock duo Schwayze and rapper Tyga in his home state of Texas.

He has already collaborated with big industry artists: his

single "Self-Made Millionaire" features a hook from Ludacris, and his song "New Chick" was featured in Nicky Hilton's debut fashion show for her new clothing line, Chick.

"I wanted to make a song that was more about women

being empowered. With "New Chick" this girl is so strong and bad that she's kinda out of your league and you're trying everything you can do to keep her.

You would do anything for you new chick, and I think that that message carried across really

well with people," Couture said of his single.

Couture is now putting the finishing touches on his debut album which balances slow tracks and melancholic lyrics with fast songs that hype audiences up for a long night of partying.

"The album is on just capturing people's full emotions and feelings. My whole expectation for the album is that people enjoy it," he admits.

"I can't really predict the numbers, or [the] fans... but as long as I have one of those albums that makes you take the long way home, I'm happy."

As a breakthrough artist, Couture realizes the music industry has been saturated with songs that rehash the same tried and true messages, but hopes his personal style sets him apart from his musical competitors.

"With artists what sets them apart is when they find new ways to talk about the same old things," Couture said.

"I really try to use a lot of imagery in a song. Where you might not hear it all the first time, second time, the third time, but every time you listen to it you catch something else."

Outside of his musical aspirations, Couture is working on a clothing line and anticipates a career that branches out into other successful ventures.

"I hope to be able to be the new Will Smith or something like that," he said.

"Just kind of be that option for kids and people to have a good role model to look up to and be out there and try to do positive things with the success I hope to have."

Master P to Launch Black TV Channel

BY GEORGE CHAPMAN JR.
Contributing Writer

The Cosby Show, *Dora the Explorer* and Master P: when mentioned side by side you're probably not sure whether you should laugh or put the kids to bed. Actually, you should just sit back and watch as Master P prepares to launch his own cable network, Better Black TV geared towards African Americans in 2009.

Master P, now known as P. Miller is adding to his extensive repertoire as he prepares to launch his new brainchild Better Black TV (BBTV).

"Better Black Television has been a vision of mine for some years," said Miller, BBTV's Chairman & CEO, in a press release. "I've done a lot to promote and change the way messages are relayed to our children and our families over the last few years."

Targeted toward the black community, BBTV will attempt to restore family friendly TV back to black America, while providing history and culture through new and innovative programming.

"Promoting positive content and positive messages is so important to educate and preserve the next generation," Miller continued.

The network will include programming such as: Managing Your Money, Better Health and Fitness and Gee Gee the Magical Giraffe, which features an array of colorful characters representing different walks of life.

Not the first of its kind, BBTV is in direct competition with elite cable networks like BET and TV One. The rapper stated that he and his son Romeo are in good relations with BET and MTV and wish to work with the networks on future projects.

Although BBTV will expand media outlets for the Black community, many students are skeptical of what the channel will accomplish.

"Why is he [Miller] doing this? BET is the biggest black network in the world, Better Black TV will get no play," said Alex Barnes, freshman radio, TV and film major.

"We are more than just the punch line of jokes, we're articulate, were talented and we're intelligent," said Marsha Leo, freshman broadcast journalism major.

Despite some skepticism, students also see BBTV as an opportunity to improve the image of blacks in the media. "We definitely need Better Black TV. I'm ashamed at BET. You would think they would have better TV that represented us, but I guess all black people love 106 & Park, chicken and watermelon right?" said freshman Christina Smith, a journalism major.

Miller is not alone in his new venture. Backing him are some of Hollywood's brightest stars. Will Smith, Denzel Washington and Derek Anderson of the Chicago Bobcats are on the network's board of directors.

With the establishment of BBTV, the rapper-turned-entrepreneur hopes to express the urgency of the need for positive family friendly TV.

In a press release Miller said, "It's extremely important to feed clean, quality and positive subject matter to our families. We believe TV content can be positive and responsible and still have good ratings with great content. BBTV will offer all kinds of family friendly entertainment that everyone can enjoy."

"Our mission is to target the new generation of responsible African-American and multi-ethnic English-speaking American and family oriented and responsible hip-hop consumers who are taking charge of their families and striving for a better tomorrow."



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